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Department of State [redacted] EXCISE TELE

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ADS-00 HA-05 ACDA-12 RP-10
SR-04 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 ANAE-00 /123 W
----------086669 0210502 /15

P 0210182 FEB 80
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2207
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
DIA WASHDC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY T. Hennen DATE 8/31/82
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 05515

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; PARIS FOR JOHNSTONE

EO 12065: GDS 02/02/86 (ABRAMOWITZ, MORTON I.) OR-M
TAGS: MMOL, SHUM, PEPR, CB, VM, UR
SUBJ: POSSIBLE USE OF CHEMICAL AGENTS IN CAMBODIA

REF BANGKOK 5441 NOTAL

1. C-ENTIRE TEXT.

2. DURING A 30 JANUARY ENCOUNTER (REFTEL) BETWEEN VIETNAMESE FORCES AND KHMER TROOPS [redacted] PAVN ELEMENTS ALLEGEDLY B1A5 B1A5

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USED GAS. ACCORDING TO THE KHMER SEREI COMMANDER,

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[redacted]

VIETNAMESE FIRED 15-16 ROUNDS, POSSIBLY FROM A MORTAR, THAT EXPLODED WITH A DULL BURST ON IMPACT WITH THE GROUND. ROUNDS RELEASED A GREY CLOUD WHICH INCAPACITATED 30 OF HIS MEN FOR 15 MINUTES. [redacted] B1A4 B1A4

[redacted]

3. [redacted] INTERVIEWED TROOPER WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE CHEMICAL AGENT. HE SAID HE COULD NOT REMEMBER WHAT THE SUBSTANCE SMELLED LIKE. IT CAUSED HIM TO FEEL CHILLY AND CONFUSED. HE FELL DOWN, DROPPING HIS RIFLE, LOST SENSATION AND COULD NOT SPEAK. HE SAID HE RECOVERED IN ABOUT 15 MINUTES BUT TEARS STREAMED DOWN AND HE VOMITED THREE TIMES. HE IMMEDIATELY RUBBED ONION AND A LITTLE URINE ON HIS FACE AND SAID HE RECOVERED COMPLETELY. THE KHMER SEREI UNIT DEPARTED SHORTLY AFTER THIS INTERVIEW ON A OPERATION PRECLUDING FURTHER DEBRIEFING. THE AFFECTED TROOPER SAID HE HAD NOT YET DISCUSSED HIS EXPERIENCES WITH HIS FELLOW GASSED SOLDIERS. B1A4 B1A4

4. KHMER SEREI TROOPERS CLAIMED THAT THIS SORT OF CHEMICAL AGENT HAD BEEN USED BEFORE BUT NEVER IN SUCH HEAVY CONCENTRATION.

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ABRAMOWITZ

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